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PEOPLE ARE FOOLED

Press Censorship at Manila Distorts the Existing Facts.

CORRESPONDENTS COMPLAIN OF OTIS

Declare He Has Not Allowed Them to Tell the Truth.

THEIR SIDE OF THE CASE

MANILA, July 11, via Hong Kong, July 17.—The constantly increasing strictness of the censorship of press dispatches from Manila, which has prevented the cabling to the United States of anything that does not reflect official views of important events and conditions, resulted in a united effort on the part of correspondents here to secure an abatement of the rigors of the censorship. The initiative in this direction was taken a month ago and resulted in the framing of a statement which was presented on Sunday, July 9, to Maj. Gen. Otis, commanding the military forces of the United States in the Philippine Islands, with a request for permission to telegraph to the United States. The correspondents also asked that they be permitted to cable to their respective papers all facts and the different phases of events as they transpired here.

Objecting to the System.

The correspondents had two long interviews with Gen. Otis, in the course of which they complained that the evident purpose of the censorship was not to keep information from the enemy, but to keep from the public a knowledge of the real condition of the situation in the Philippines. They also complained that the papers printed in Manila, which reach the enemy quickly, are permitted to publish statements similar to those which correspondents are forbidden to cable. It was made clear to Gen. Otis that the objection was to the system and not to the censor.

Gen. Otis finally promised greater liberality, agreeing to pass all matter that he might consider not detrimental to the interests of the United States. Gen. Otis has appointed Capt. Green of his staff censor.

Public Not Correctly Informed.

The statement of the correspondents is as follows: "The undersigned, being all staff correspondents of American newspapers stationed in Manila, unite in the following statement: We believe that owing to official dispatches from Manila made public in Washington the people of the United States have not received a correct impression of the situation in the Philippines, but that these dispatches have presented an ultra-optimistic view that is not shared by the general officers in the field. "We believe the dispatches incorrectly represent the existing conditions among the Philippines in respect to dissension and demoralization resulting from the American campaign and to the brigand character of their army.

"We believe the dispatches err in the declaration that 'The situation is well in hand' and in the assumption that the insurrection can be speedily ended without a greatly increased force.

"We think the tenacity of the Filipino purpose has been underestimated and that the statements are unfounded that volunteers are willing to engage in further service.

Compelled to Misrepresent.

"The censorship has compelled us to participate in this misrepresentation by excluding or altering unconverted statements of facts on the plea, as Gen. Otis stated, that they would alarm the people at home, or have the people of the United States by the ears."

"Specifications: Prohibition of reports; suppression of full reports of field operations in the event of failure; numbers of men killed; reports of the systematic minimization of naval operations; and suppression of complete reports of the situation.

"(Signed) JOHN T. MCCUTCHEON,
"HARRY ARMSTRONG,
"OSCAR K. DAVIS,
"P. G. McDONNELL,
"JOHN F. BASS,
"WILL DINWIDDIE,
"E. S. KEENE,
"SCOTT McRAE Ass'n.
"RICHARD LITTLE,
"ROBERT M. COLLINS,
"JOHN F. DUNNING,
"L. JONES,
"The Associated Press."

RELIGIOUS CIRCLES SURPRISED.

Prominent Baptist Divine Administers Sacrament in Christian Church.

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.
RICHMOND, Va., July 17.—Something of a sensation was created in religious circles here yesterday when it was circulated about the city that Rev. Dr. Theodore Woeifkin, one of the most prominent Baptist ministers in the country, and pastor of the largest and most influential Baptist church in Brooklyn, N. Y., had administered the sacrament of the Lord's supper at the Seventh Street Christian Church.

Dr. Woeifkin was invited to supply the pulpit, which is now without a pastor. He was invited to remain and administer the sacrament of the Lord's supper, which he agreed to do, and when asked to administer the sacrament many were surprised that he accepted, though there were no unfavorable criticisms. It was the first case of the kind here and today it is much discussed.

MAY REACH \$20,000,000.

Estimate of the Spring Clean-Up in the Klondike.

VICTORIA, B. C., July 17.—The manager of the Dawson branch of a Victoria firm, writing from that city, says: "From reliable sources we have learned that the steamers 'Roanoke' and 'Gardner' will take from St. Michael for Seattle and San Francisco \$7,000,000 or a little more. The Canadian Bank of Commerce shipped \$1,200,000 to each place, the Alaska Commercial Company a little over \$500,000 and the North American Trading and Transportation Company \$500,000.

"We are informed by the Bank of Commerce managers that they had sight here at one time this spring \$4,000,000. The bank people declare that the total output this year from the Klondike, including summer work will not be less than \$28,000,000, and will probably reach \$30,000,000."

The Roanoke is reported to have entered the sound last night.

WASHINGTON, D. C., MONDAY, JULY 17, 1899—TWELVE PAGES. TWO CENTS.

CHARGE BAD FAITH

Employees of Cleveland Street Car Company Strike Again.

THE BIG CONSOLIDATED TIED UP

Business Agent Pratt Predicts Serious Trouble in the Matter.

STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC

CLEVELAND, Ohio, July 17.—The conductors and motormen of the Big Consolidated street railway system who were on a strike last month, went out again at 4:15 o'clock this morning. Eight hundred men are affected. They claim the company has not lived up to the agreement made which ended the former strike.

Business Agent's Statement.

Business Agent Pratt of the strikers issued a statement today, in part as follows: "It is with grave apprehension that I view the situation as it exists at the present time between the Big Consolidated Railroad Company, with its millions of dollars back of it, on the one side, and the street car employees, a brave, determined set of liberty-loving American citizens, and a vast throng of organized labor back of them, on the other side. "Three weeks have elapsed and the company has failed to live up to any part of its agreement, neither has it shown any intention of doing so, except by many promises which have been more readily broken than made. The council committee has said that they are no longer a party to that agreement, although the same appears there the same as the rest. Consequently we are brought back to the very situation that we were in before, and that our last condition is worse than the first.

Serious Trouble Predicted.

"Who will be responsible for the suffering, rioting and disgrace that must inevitably follow another strike? The corporations will place the blame upon the down-trodden laborer, because they have money, and because of their having money they are city authorities who are willing to put the collar around their neck and say the men themselves are to blame for all this."

Violence Feared at Cleveland.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, July 17.—The entire Big Consolidated street railway system was tied up by a second strike this morning. The Fourth of July celebration, which had been planned for the morning, was abandoned. The company has been in every particular. Eleven hundred men are out. Attempt will be made to start the cars at 8 o'clock. Violence is feared.

PAID DEAR FOR PATRIOTISM.

Estimated That 141 Lives Were Lost Celebrating Fourth of July.

CHICAGO, July 17.—The Tribune today prints revised figures, gathered from correspondents throughout the country, showing a loss of 141 lives resulting from the late Fourth of July celebration. Some of these died July 4, others from injuries received then. Lockjaw caused the death of eighty-three out of the 141.

HONEST AND QUALIFIED.

Report on the Investigation of Tea Examiner McGay.

The treasury commission engaged in investigations at the appraiser's stores, New York, has submitted a report to the Secretary of the Treasury on the subject of charges against the examiner of tea, Isaac McGay.

The commission finds that widely divergent views are expressed by importers and others in the tea trade concerning the competency and efficiency of the examiner.

In the opinion of the commission, there has been a rigid enforcement of the tea act at New York. It is concluded that Examiner McGay is honest and qualified by experience to determine whether or not a tea is pure and wholesome and fit for consumption, although he has unquestionably made mistakes in passing upon the relative excellence of tea—errors which are likely to be repeated by him, and are not to be altogether avoided even by the selection of the best expert in the country to serve as examiner. The commission reports that it is unable to obtain conformity in decisions as to the relative strength and flavor of tea because determined upon points differ widely with individual preferences. It is presented by importers whether or not the word "quality," considered with "purity" and "wholesomeness," is synonymous with wholesomeness. If it is, it should be excluded when they are equally pure and fit for consumption as the government standard, and many importers contend that that is the intent of the act, then the tests for quality should be discontinued.

Suggestions are made concerning the method of selecting witnesses in the hearing of protests.

WILL SOON RETURN HOME.

High School Cadets Preparing to Break Camp.

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.
CAMP NAILOR, OCEAN VIEW, Va., July 17.—The High School Cadets are preparing to break camp and will return to Washington in a few days. They have had a pleasant stay, attended by no sickness or discomfort. They gave an exhibition drill Saturday, which was witnessed by a large crowd of Norfolk and Richmond people.

A number of the boys' parents are visiting this place and are much pleased with the boys' surroundings.

Two Drown, One Escapes.

LOWVILLE, N. Y., July 17.—Frank Ammond and Charles D. Van Dresen, aged thirty-five and forty years, respectively, were drowned on Pleasant lake last night. Edward Witte, who was with the men, swam ashore. The men were in a boat attempting to change places, when the boat capsized. Ammond and Van Dresen could not swim. The three men resided at Copenhagen, Van Dresen leaves a wife and three children. Their remains have not been recovered.

St. Louis Factory Burns.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., July 17.—The large plant of Somers Bros., manufacturers of horse collars and leggings, in North Broadway, was totally destroyed by fire this morning. The damage is estimated at \$75,000, and is covered by insurance.

TROOPS FOR MANILA

Recommendations of Generals Miles and Merritt.

THE GENERAL OF THE ARMY'S ADVICE

Practically No Difference of Opinion as to Number.

COMPOSITION OF THE FORCE

There has been considerable discussion in the press recently in regard to an alleged difference of opinion regarding the number of troops to be sent to the Philippine Islands in the first instance. Inquiry at the War Department today shows that immediately upon receiving the news, through press dispatches, of Dewey's victory at Manila, General Miles recommended the dispatch of a military force to the Philippine Islands. The following is his letter:

"Headquarters of the Army,
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 3, 1898.
"The Honorable Secretary of War:
"Sir: I have the honor to recommend that General Thomas M. Anderson be sent to occupy the Philippine Islands in command of the following troops: Two regiments of infantry, two troops of Cavalry, one regiment of infantry, California Volunteers; two batteries heavy artillery, California Volunteers; one regiment of infantry, Oregon Volunteers; one regiment of infantry, Washington Volunteers; the troops to go with all the necessary supplies, supplies and equipment. Very respectfully,
"Major General Commanding U. S. Army."

The force above designated was, approximately, 5,000 men; and the recommendation was approved by the President as follows:

"Executive Mansion,
WASHINGTON, May 4, 1898.

"The troops designated by General Miles, if approved by the Secretary of War, should be assembled at San Francisco, Cal., for such service as may be ordered hereafter. Very respectfully,
"Major General Commanding U. S. Army."

Up to this time no communication had been received from Admiral Dewey, his first dispatch, dated May 1, not reaching Washington until May 7. Later the following dispatch was received:

"HONG KONG, May 13, 1898.
(Cable May 13.)
"Secretary of the Navy, Washington.
"I am maintaining strict blockade of Manila by sea, and believe reinforcements are hemming in by land, although they are inactive, and making no demonstrations. I believe the Spanish governor general will be obliged to surrender soon. I can take Manila at any time, and will do so as soon as I receive your orders. I believe the Spanish governor general will require, in my best judgment, well-equipped force of 5,000 men, although I believe that the force of 5,000 men is sufficient to relieve the Olympia of guarding Cavite. United States troops should make provision for extremely hot, moist climate. Spanish force is estimated 30,000 men. The rebels are reported 30,000 men. "DEWEY."

Gen. Miles' Recommendation.

On May 16, 1898, after seeing the above dispatch from Admiral Dewey, General Miles made the following recommendations:

"Headquarters of the Army,
WASHINGTON, May 16, 1898.
"The Honorable the Secretary of War:
"Sir: I have the honor to submit the following: In order to make the United States force as strong and effective as possible with a view to its maintaining our possession of the Philippine Islands, and to have the command sent there as quickly as possible, I suggest that the command sent there consist of the 24th and 25th regiments of infantry, two troops of Cavalry, one battery of heavy artillery from the 7th, and two batteries of light artillery, from the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152nd, 153rd, 154th, 155th, 156th, 157th, 158th, 159th, 160th, 161st, 162nd, 163rd, 164th, 165th, 166th, 167th, 168th, 169th, 170th, 171st, 172nd, 173rd, 174th, 175th, 176th, 177th, 178th, 179th, 180th, 181st, 182nd, 183rd, 184th, 185th, 186th, 187th, 188th, 189th, 190th, 191st, 192nd, 193rd, 194th, 195th, 196th, 197th, 198th, 199th, 200th, 201st, 202nd, 203rd, 204th, 205th, 206th, 207th, 208th, 209th, 210th, 211st, 212th, 213th, 214th, 215th, 216th, 217th, 218th, 219th, 220th, 221st, 222nd, 223rd, 224th, 225th, 226th, 227th, 228th, 229th, 230th, 231st, 232nd, 233rd, 234th, 235th, 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